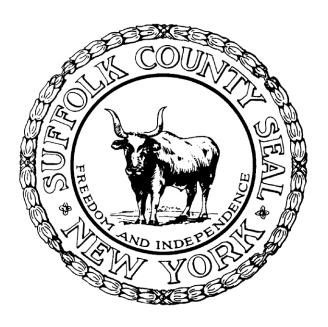
# SUFFOLK COUNTY CONSORTIUM SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO 2011 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

# EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT SECOND ALLOCATION ESG



Lead Agency: Suffolk County Community Development Office

H. Lee Dennison Building 100 Veterans Memorial Highway P.O. Box 6100 Hauppauge, N.Y. 11788-0099

Prepared: March, 2012

For Period Covering Program Year 2011

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# SF 424

The SF 424 is part of the CPMP Annual Action Plan. SF 424 form fields are included in this document. Grantee information is linked from the 1CPMP.xls document of the CPMP tool.

#### SF 424

Complete the fillable fields (blue cells) in the table below. The other items are pre-filled with values from the Grantee Information Worksheet.

Date Submitted	Applicant Identifier 11-1000464	Type of	Type of Submission					
Date Received by state	State Identifier	Application	Pre-application					
Date Received by HUD	Federal Identifier E11-UC-360109	☐ Construction	☐ Construction					
			☐ Non Construction					
Applicant Information								
Suffolk County		NY369103 SUFFOLK (	COUNTY					
H. Lee Dennison Building		Organizational DUNS 1	42753479					
100 Veterans Memorial Hwy.	, PO Box 6100	Organizational Unit:						
Hauppauge	New York	Department: Economi	c Development					
11788	Country U.S.A.	Division: Community	Development					
<b>Employer Identification Nur</b>	nber (EIN):	Suffolk County						
11-6000464		Program Year Start Dat	e (04/01)					
Applicant Type:		Specify Other Type if	necessary:					
Local Government: County		Specify Other Type						
Program Funding			U.S. Department of ng and Urban Development					
Catalogue of Federal Domest Project(s) (cities, Counties, lo			roject(s); Areas Affected by					
Community Development B	lock Grant	14.218 Entitlement Grar	nt					
CDBG Project Titles:		Description of Areas Aff	ected by CDBG Project(s):					
\$CDBG Grant Amount:	\$Additional HU	JD Grant(s) Leveraged Desc	ribe					
\$Additional Federal Funds Le	veraged	\$Additional State Funds	Leveraged					
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged						
\$Anticipated Program Income	)	Other (Describe)						
Total Funds Leveraged for CI	DBG-based Project(s)	<b>'</b>						
Home Investment Partnersh	nips Program	14.239 HOME						
HOME Project Titles:		Description of Areas Aff	ected by HOME Project(s):					
\$HOME Grant Amount:	\$Additional HU	JD Grant(s) Leveraged Desc	ribe					

\$Locally Leveraged Funds			\$Grantee Funds Leveraged				
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Housing Opportunities for P	eople with AIDS		14.24	41 HOPWA			
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\$Locally Leveraged Funds			\$Gra	antee Funds Leveraged			
\$Anticipated Program Income			Othe	er (Describe)			
Total Funds Leveraged for HC	PWA-based Project(s)						
Emergency Shelter Grants P	Program		14.23	31 ESG			
ESG Project Titles: Suffolk Co Activities	·		Suffo	cription of Areas Affected by ESG Project(s) olk County	):		
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\$Locally Leveraged Funds			\$Grantee Funds Leveraged				
\$Anticipated Program Income			Other (Describe)				
Total Funds Leveraged for ES	G-based Project(s): \$91	1,321					
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Applicant Districts: 1, 2	Project Districts: 1, 2			rocess?			
Is the applicant delinquent or	any federal debt? If	_ \	⁄es	This application was made available to the	ne A T C		
"Yes" please include an addit	lional document		la.	state EO 12372 process for review on DA	41E		
explaining the situation.	⊠ No		<u>√o</u> √A	Program is not covered by EO 12372  Program has not been selected by the sta	ate		
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Person to be contacted regard	ling this application						
First Name: Jill	Middle Initial:			Last Name: Rosen-Nikoloff			
Title: Director	Phone: 631-853	5-570	5	Fax: 631-853-5688			
eMail: jill.rosen-	Grantee Website:		Other Contact				
nikoloff@suffolkcountyny.gov	suffolkcountyn		V				
Signature of Authorized Repre Jon Schneider	sentative:			Date Signed			
Deputy County Executive							

\$Additional State Funds Leveraged

\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged

# Suffolk County Consortium Substantial Amendment to 2011 Annual Action Plan Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Second Allocation

#### 1. Introduction

Suffolk County is amending its 2011 Annual Action Plan for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program for submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order to receive the second allocation of 2011 funding. This Substantial Amendment is due to HUD no later than May 15, 2012.

In 2011, HUD broke the ESG program into two separate funding allocations. The first allocation of \$162,348 was for the "traditional" ESG activities, is subject to the previous Emergency Shelter Grant Program regulations, and was part of the County's 2011 Annual Action Plan. The second allocation of \$91,321 is subject to the new Emergency Solutions Grant Program regulations.

This amendment has been prepared in accordance with the County's Citizen Participation Plan, and with consultation with the Suffolk County Continuum of Care.

#### 2. HEARTH ACT

The ESG program changes are a result of the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act). The HEARTH ACT, enacted into law in 2009, consolidates three separate homeless assistance programs administered by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act into a single grant program, and revises the Emergency Shelter Grants program and renames it as the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program. The HEARTH Act also codifies into law the Continuum of Care planning process, a longstanding part of HUD's application process to assist homeless persons, by providing for greater coordination of local planning efforts designed to assist homeless persons. The change in the program's name, from Emergency Shelter Grants to Emergency Solutions Grants, reflects the change in the program's focus from addressing the needs of homeless people in emergency or transitional shelters to assisting people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness.

# 3. Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing

A portion of the funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was allocated to HUD for a Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), and Suffolk County prepared a substantial amendment to its 2008 Annual Action Plan in order to receive its formula allocation of \$1,511,657.

This "temporary" program has been providing financial assistance and services to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and to help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The funds under this program were intended to target individuals and families who would be homeless but for this assistance. The funds provided a variety of assistance including: rent and utility arrears, short-term or medium-term rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilizations services, including such activities as mediation, credit counseling, security or utility deposits, moving cost assistance and case management. The new regulations for the ESG program, which is a considered a "permanent" program, are patterned after the HPRP. Therefore, HPRP activities can continue in a greatly reduced form and ensure some continuity between HPRP and ESG.

#### 4. Summary of Consultation Process

Suffolk County has an application process for non-profits to use to apply for the available ESG funds. The application was developed in cooperation with the Suffolk County CoC leadership. In addition, a representative from Suffolk County Community Development attends the monthly Suffolk County CoC meetings to provide updates and gather input on Emergency Solutions Grants. Applications, as applicable, are posted on the Suffolk County Community Development website and distributed by the Suffolk County CoC to all of its members. Requests for funding are evaluated on several factors: compliance with all federal regulations, ability to successfully complete activities based on prior performances, Match, HMIS participation, CoC attendance, location of activities, as well as the nature of the activities. Suffolk County meets with the local CoC leadership to determine a final allocation of the available funding.

### **5. Summary of Citizen Participation Process**

Notice of Substantial Amendment to the 2011 Annual Action Plan was placed in the Suffolk County Edition of <a href="Newsday">Newsday</a> on April 13, 2012, starting a 30 day comment period. It was also posted on the Suffolk County Community Development website at: <a href="http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/EconomicDevelopmentandPlanning/CommunityDevelopment/EmergencySolutionsGrant.aspx">http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/EconomicDevelopmentandPlanning/CommunityDevelopment/EmergencySolutionsGrant.aspx</a>

Legal Notice 16867407

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#### 6. Match

Suffolk County Community Development will monitor and ensure that 100% of the Emergency Solutions Grant is matched with equal resources. Subrecipients are each required to provide such match. The match must be cash or an in-kind contribution, and cannot be counted as satisfying the matching requirement of another federal grant. Only matching funds meeting the requirement of §576.201 will be accepted.

# 7. Proposed Activities and Overall Budget

The January 27, 2012 Federal Register Notice states that existing "shelter" activities cannot exceed 60% of the PY 2011 combined allocation, or 100% of the PY 2010 allocation that was used for shelter activities, whichever is greater.

Table 1: Declaration of PY 2010 Grant Fund Commitments

Activity Type	Obligated Amount
Homeless Assistance	\$105,389.00
Homelessness Prevention	\$47,000.00
Administrative Activities	\$8,100.00
Total PY 2010 Award	\$160,489.00

The initial allocation of PY 2011 ESG funding was allocated to emergency shelters (83% - \$134,230), Homeless Prevention (12% - \$20,000) and administration (5% - \$8,117). 60% of the combined PY 2011 ESG allocation of \$253,669 is \$152,201, and 100% of the PY 2010 amount used for shelter activities is \$105,389.

In discussions with the Continuum of Care and the two non-profits currently providing homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing services under the HPRP Grant, a consensus was made to reach more of the nearly homeless population. While there is a great demand for homeless shelter services, it was agreed that there was a greater need for Homeless Prevention Programs which follow HUD's objectives.

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Proj	Project Name: ESG11-Administration												
	Description: IDIS Project #: ESG11-SUFFOLK UOG Code: NY369103 SUFFOLK COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS FOR THE IMPREMENTATION AND MONITORING OF ESG ACTIVITIES.												
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#### 8. Discussion of Funding Priorities

Within Suffolk County there are also non-homeless households which are threatened with homelessness and are considered "at-risk". Factors contributing to this problem include increase in the number of foreclosed homes, excessive housing cost burden, overcrowding, substance abuse, mental illness and AIDS. Extremely low income families with incomes of less than 30% of area median, especially those with children, are most at-risk. It is estimated that 4280 small and large renter families and 4354 owners within this income category have housing problems, including cost burden, overcrowding and inadequate plumbing. The County assists low income families and individuals in imminent danger of residing in shelters, or being unsheltered due to a lack of housing and/or inadequate support network, by establishing a coordinated services approach. Through this approach, the near homeless can access emergency housing via one of the county's Social Services Centers located throughout the county or after business hours through a 24 hour, seven days a week emergency hotline established by the Department of Social Services. Community groups and the police are also aware of this number so that they can make homeless referrals. The centralized unit matches client needs with available bed space in accordance with Federal and local guidelines. Each of the county's service centers are staffed with "housing specialists" who assess client needs, offer permanent housing resources or arrange for emergency placements, if necessary. Homeless clients who appear to have a need for special services are referred to a caseworker screener who works at each Center. The trained caseworker evaluates and screen for special needs. Within the Central Housing Unit there is also a staff that works on a one to one basis with special needs clients. These workers coordinate with other parts of the agency. Public assistance and adult protective services are available to meet the special needs of the elderly, veterans and physically and mentally ill. addition, coordination among the agency's units for child protective services, teenage services and foster care for minors is made available to meet the needs of families with children.

The Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness is being developed by Suffolk County. The County took the lead agency responsibility in preparing the ten-year plan. Suffolk County shares HUD's vision of eliminating chronic homelessness and has worked diligently toward this end. A strategy has been established that includes prevention, outreach, assessment, emergency and supportive services, and transitional and permanent supportive housing. This continuum emphasizes several primary goals: to move chronically homeless persons into permanent housing by increasing outreach efforts and assistance in accessing mainstream resources; increasing the amount of affordable housing stock; increase their opportunities for self-sufficiency; prevent future episodes of homelessness; and increase accessibility to the continuum of care system.

The strategic plan developed relies on a close working relationship between government agencies, housing and service providers, hospitals, and formerly homeless individuals.

Major components in Suffolk's strategy to end chronic homelessness include the following:

- 1) Increase the supply of permanent supportive housing for people with mental illness and substance abuse by:
  - •Supporting non-profits in their application for federal and state funding;
  - •Identifying county owned land for the development of permanent supportive housing;
  - •Using federal and state funds toward the development of permanent supportive housing;
  - •Providing access to the county's Housing Opportunities Program to assist in acquiring sites for housing;
  - •Having all shelter residents apply for Section 8 vouchers;
  - •Prioritizing HUD's homeless funding for programs that address chronic homelessness.
- 2) Increase and prioritize access to existing permanent housing and services by:
  - •Improving coordination between Shelter providers and Mental Health and Substance Abuse providers.
  - •Use ACT teams, Single Point of Access (SPA), Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) to get people the services they need that will lead them to permanent housing.
  - •Increase outreach methods and activities to ensure that chronically homeless persons are enrolled in Mainstream programs and can access all resources to which they are entitled.
  - •Expand participation in the region's HMIS system in order to more readily access information regarding program openings, referrals, etc.
- 3) Preventing homelessness by supporting the development of generic affordable housing through inclusive/incentive zoning, public awareness/education and technical assistance.
  - •Implement a countywide HMIS system that enables us to track all of the important information related to the causes and other variables of homelessness and the outcomes of our efforts to address this problem.
  - •Assist housing providers struggling to maintain people in housing through repairing damages, payment of back rents, etc.
  - •Coordinate the various government agencies and non-profits in a manner that allows for a system wide focus that is comprehensive, cooperative and effective.
- 4) Increase Use of and Participation in HMIS System by:
  - •Establishing homeless demographics for the region, including frequency and lengths of homelessness;

- •Determine where homeless individuals and families are coming from both in terms of locations/towns, and in terms of systems.
- •Facilitate communication and dissemination of information between and among providers in order to simplify referrals/applications and expedite access to housing and services.
- •Provide real-time information regarding openings/vacancies in the system in order to match housing/services to persons in need.
- •Develop a system with live data documenting community needs for housing and services, establishing priorities and evidence of the need for housing and services in the region.

## 9. Detailed Budget (see following page)

FY 2011 Detailed Budget Table											
First Allocation											
Second Allocation	stion \$91,321.00 Emergency Shelter Grants/Emergency S										
Grant Amount	\$253,669.00			Allocations							
Total											
Administration	\$19,025.18										
		First A	Allocation	Second	Total Fiscal						
		FIRST P	Milocation	Allocation	Year 2011						
	Eligible Activities	Activity	Reprogrammed	Activity	Activity						
	Eligible Activities	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount						
S.	Homeless Assistance	\$134,230.60	\$0.00		\$134,230.60						
Emergency Shelter Grants Program	Rehab/Conversion				\$0.00						
mergenc elter Grai Program	Operations	\$134,230.60			\$134,230.60						
ner ter rog	Essential Services				\$0.00						
E P P	Homelessness Prevention	\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00						
S	Administration	\$8,117.40			\$8,117.40						
	Emergency Shelter Grants	\$162,348.00	\$0.00		\$162,348.00						
	Subtotal			ć0.00	ć0.00						
	Emergency Shelter**			\$0.00	\$0.00						
	Renovation**			\$0.00	\$0.00						
	Operation**			\$0.00	\$0.00						
	Essential Service**			\$0.00	\$0.00						
	URA Assistance**			\$0.00	\$0.00						
_	Street Outreach - Essential			\$0.00	\$0.00						
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ncy Solutions Grants Program	Homelessness Prevention		\$0.00	\$80,413.22	\$80,413.22						
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erg B	Stabilization Services			\$80,413.22	\$80,413.22						
Emergei	Tenant-Based Rental										
_	Assistance				\$0.00						
	Project-Based Rental										
	Assistance				\$0.00						
	Administration			\$10,907.78	\$10,907.78						
	Emergency Solutions		4								
	Grants Subtotal		\$0.00	\$91,321.00	\$91,321.00						
			Total Grant	t Amount:	\$253,669.00						
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<sup>\*\*</sup>Allowable only if the amount obligated for homeless assistance activities using funds from the first allocation is less than the expenditure limit for emergency shelter and street outreach activities (see Section III.B. of this Notice).

#### 10. Written Standards for Provision of ESG Assistance

To provide housing relocation and stabilization services and short- and/or medium-term rental assistance necessary to prevent an individual or family from moving into an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the "homeless" definition in § 576.2. The costs of homelessness prevention are only eligible to the extent that the assistance is necessary to help the program participant regain stability in the program participant's current permanent housing or move into other permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

The Homeless Prevention budget is \$80,413.22. The program will provide financial assistance and supportive services to help prevent persons from becoming homeless. Eligible households will have an annual income below 30 percent of median family income for Suffolk County and be a resident within the Suffolk County Consortium. Funds shall be used for the following purposes:

- 1) Financial assistance conditional under § 576.103 and § 576.104 for the following costs:
  - a. Rental application fees.
  - b. Security deposits equal to no more than 2 month's rent.
  - c. Last month's rent which must not exceed one month's rent and must be included in calculating the program participant's total rental assistance, which cannot exceed 24 months during any 3 year period.
  - d. Utility deposits
  - e. Utility payments up to 24 months per participant per service, including up to 6 months of utility payments in arrears, per service. No program participant shall receive more than 24 months of utility assistance within any 3 year period.
  - f. Moving costs
- 2) Service Costs restricted under § 576.103 and § 576.104 to provide the following services:
  - a. Housing search and placement.
  - b. Housing stability case management.
  - c. Mediation.
  - d. Legal services.
  - e. Credit repair.

#### 11. Process for Making Sub-awards

Suffolk County has an application process for non-profits to use to apply for the available ESG funds. Requests for funding are evaluated on several factors: compliance with all federal regulations, ability to successfully complete activities based on prior performances, Match, HMIS participation, CoC attendance, location of activities, as well as the nature of the activities. Suffolk County meets with the local CoC leadership to determine a final allocation of the available funding.

#### 12. Homeless Participation Requirement

Applicants for Emergency Solutions Grant funding through Suffolk County Community Development must provide details of their plan to meet this requirement. In discussions with area providers and with the Suffolk CoC, it appears that most already have a procedure in place for "Homeless Participation". Suffolk County Community Development will also seek input from interested parties that attend the local CoC meetings.

#### 13. Performance Standards

Suffolk County's goal is to achieve striving to achieve a reduction in the number of households facing imminent homelessness in Suffolk County. The number of households serve will be used as the performance indicator. In addition, it is expected that at least 50% of the households assisted will remain stable in permanent housing at least 6 months after the last ESG assistance is provided.

#### 14. Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System

Suffolk County Community Development is currently reviewing processes for formulating a coordinated assessment system with the Suffolk County Continuum of Care.

#### 15. Monitoring

Suffolk County Community Development's current monitoring procedures are up to date and compliant to the new requirements. Suffolk County will monitor each voucher submitted by the subrecipient to determine whether it is an appropriate expenditure of ESG funds, and will only accept those that are in compliance with ESG guidelines. Site visits will be made to ensure compliance with all HUD regulations.

Subrecipients will be expected to follow all HUD expenditure requirements. Monthly reports are sent by Suffolk County to all subrecipients to ensure timely communication and progress of activities. Performance data is entered into the HMIS system. The Suffolk County CoC is the lead agency for the HMIS administration. All recipients of Suffolk County ESG funds are required to participate in the Suffolk County HMIS system. They are to submit Quarterly Reports into HMIS and provide copies to Suffolk County Community Development. The only exceptions to this are Domestic Violence agencies that fall under the VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) guidelines. DV agencies are to use a parallel database and provide aggregate data to the local CoC and copies to Suffolk County Community Development.